

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

FACT SHEET/STATEMENT OF BASIS
DRAFT NPDES PERMIT TO DISCHARGE
INTO THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

NPDES No. PR0026026 Date:

NPDES Permit Writer: Stephen Venezia - 10/19/06

Name and Address of Applicant:

Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority
P.O. Box 7066, Bo. Obrero Station
Santurce, Puerto Rico 00916

Name and Address of Facility
where Discharge Occurs:

Culebra Island Desalinization Plant
Road PR No. 250, Km. 4.0
Culebra Island, Puerto Rico 00775

Receiving Water: Bahía Ensenada Honda

Classification: SB

I. LOCATION OF DISCHARGE

The above-named applicant has applied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to discharge into the designated receiving waters. The location of each discharge is described by the following U.S.G.S. Coordinates:

	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Outfall 001	N 18° 18' 24"	W 65° 17' 02"

A description and/or sketch of the location of the discharges is appended as Attachment I.

II. DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY

The Culebra Desalinization Plant is a water treatment plant that treats raw sea water from the Ensenada Honda at the Caribbean Sea. This activity has a standard industrial classification (SIC) code of 4941. The treatment consists of sand and micro filtration stages, reverse osmosis process and disinfection. The intake and the discharge are located at Ensenada Honda Puerto Rico Aqueduct & Sewer Authority (PRASA) operates and maintains this facility..

III. DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

Outfall 001:

The discharge consists of a daily maximum of 0.190 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater from the Culebra Island Desalinization Plant.

A description of the type and quantity of pollutants which are to be discharged is listed in Table A-1 of the draft permit.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS

The effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, schedules of compliance and other conditions of the draft permit are described in Attachment II. Also included in Attachment II is a brief summary of the basis for each effluent limitation and other conditions in the draft permit.

V. STATE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

State Certification requirements are based upon a draft Water Quality Certificate (WQC) issued on September 26, 2006, by the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Review and appeals of limitations and conditions attributable to this certification shall be made through the applicable procedures of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and may not be made through EPA procedures.

VI. PROCEDURES FOR REACHING A FINAL DECISION ON THE DRAFT PERMIT

These procedures, which are set forth in 40 CFR 124, are described in the public notice of preparation of this draft permit. Included in the public notice are requirements for the submission of comments by a specified date, procedures for requesting a hearing and the nature of the hearing, and other procedures for participation in the final agency decision.

VII. ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

In letters dated May 27, 2003, and December 5, 2002, respectively, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service provided written concurrences that the revisions to the Puerto Rico Water Quality Standards (PRWAS) are not likely to adversely affect threatened or endangered species. As a minor facility and a renewal permit, no effects determination for Culebra Island Desalinization Plant, has been made and the PRWQS approved by the services mentioned above will be adequate.

VIII. EPA CONTACT

Additional information concerning the draft permit may be obtained between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday from:

WALTER E. ANDREWS, CHIEF
WATER PROGRAMS BRANCH
USEPA-REGION 2
290 BROADWAY - 24TH FLOOR
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DESCRIPTION OF DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR OUTFALL 001

The effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions are described in the draft permit. The effluent limitations in the permit are equivalent to the most stringent values specified in the applicable technology-based guidelines or water quality-based limitations.

I. Water Quality-based Limits

The effluent limitations listed in Table A-1 for all contaminants, unless otherwise specified, and all special conditions are as imposed in the draft Water Quality Certificate (WQC) issued by the EQB, dated September 26, 2006. The draft WQC was issued by the EQB for the purpose of assuring compliance with EQB's water quality standards and compliance with other appropriate requirements of State law as provided by Section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act.

II. Monitoring Requirements

The monitoring requirements listed in Table A-1 for all contaminants, unless otherwise specified, are as imposed in the draft Water Quality Certificate (WQC) issued by the EQB, dated September 26, 2006. The draft WQC was issued by the EQB for the purpose of assuring compliance with EQB's water quality standards and compliance with other appropriate requirements of State law as provided by Section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act.

The draft WQC does not specify an analytical method for undissociated H₂S. EPA is therefore providing a footnote requiring use of the approved EPA analytical method with the lowest possible detection limit to establish the concentration of Sulfide (undissociated H₂S). Also, EPA is providing clarifying wording in the draft permit for Special Condition number 7 in the EQB draft WQC to ensure that the permittee performs the analytical test and calculations specified by EPA for Undissociated H₂S and provides compliance with the terms of this Special Condition in the cover letter submitted with the Discharge Monitoring Report.

III. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

Special Condition 12 was modified from the requirement imposed in the water quality certificate issued by the Puerto Rico EQB. EPA has imposed the quarterly testing requirement to collect data necessary to determine whether this discharge has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of Puerto Rico's water quality standards for toxicity. This Special Condition is pursuant to water quality based permitting requirements at 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1), which requires EPA and delegated states to evaluate each National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the potential to exceed state numeric or narrative water quality standards, including those for toxics, and to establish effluent limitations for those facilities with the "reasonable potential" to exceed those

standards. This Special Condition is also consistent with the “Region 2 Whole Effluent Toxicity Implementation Strategy”. Federal regulations require both chemical specific limits, based on the state numeric water quality standards or other criteria developed by EPA, and whole effluent toxicity effluent limits if reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards is determined.

Special Condition 12 also asserts the right of EPA and EQB to require additional monitoring based on the results of the quarterly samples, and the right of EPA to reopen this permit to include additional toxicity requirements, such as identification of toxic sources and treatability, and/or effluent limitations if warranted.

IV. Special Conditions - All special conditions are as imposed in the draft WQC issued by the EQB, dated September 26, 2006.

VI. General Conditions - These conditions apply to all permits as required by 40 CFR Part 122.7.